

## PRESS RELEASE

April 4, 2020

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Justin Minshew, Wayne County Clerk of Court

## ANNOUNCEMENT FROM WAYNE COUNTY CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT IN RESPONSE TO GOVERNOR'S STAY AT HOME EXECUTIVE ORDER

**Wayne County, NC** - In response to Governor Roy Cooper's Executive Order 121 as well as the North Carolina Chief Justice's directives, the Wayne County Clerk of Superior Court's Office will implement changes to normal operations to limit the public's risk of exposure to COVID-19 while ensuring access to justice and the court system's continued operations to perform essential constitutional and statutory duties.

Beginning on Monday, April 6, 2020 through the duration of the governor's executive order and any extension thereof, the Wayne County Clerk of Superior Court's Office will operate at a reduced staff with reduced hours. The office will remain open to the public Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to accept and process court filings and payments. Matters involving estates and special proceedings will be handled by appointment only, you may schedule an appointment by calling (919) 722-6100 Ext. 4.

Although the office remains open for filings and assistance, matters may often be resolved over the telephone or through email without physically appearing. Please take every effort to minimize in person contact. Completed filings accompanied by the appropriate court fees, may be mailed with a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Wayne County Clerk of Court, 224 E. Walnut Street, Room 230, Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530. You may reach the Clerk's Office by telephone at (919) 722-6100 or by email as shown below:

Bookkeeping	Wayne.Bookkeeping@nccourts.org	(919) 722-6170
Civil	Wayne.Civil@nccourts.org	(919) 722-6100 Ext. 3
Criminal District	Wayne.CriminalDistrict@nccourts.org	(919) 722-6100 Ext. 1
(including traffic tickets)		
Criminal Superior	Wayne.CriminalSuperior@nccourts.org	(919) 722-6100 Ext. 1
Domestic	Wayne.Domestic@nccourts.org	(919) 722-6100 Ext. 2
Estates	Wayne.Estates@nccourts.org	(919) 722-6100 Ext. 4
Jury Duty	Wayne.Jury@nccourts.org	(919) 722-6160
Juvenile	Wayne.Juvenile@nccourts.org	(919) 722-6100 Ext. 2
	Confidential – emails should be encrypted	
Special Proceedings	Wayne.SpecialProceedings@nccourts.org	(919) 722-6100 Ext. 4

Emergency filings may be made at the Wayne County Magistrates Office Monday through Friday between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The court system will remain open to process important documentation and information and to provide essential and required legal services. The Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court has by court order extended many deadlines and continued most cases through June 1, 2020. Information regarding the orders may be found at <a href="https://www.nccourts.gov/covid-19-coronavirus-updates">https://www.nccourts.gov/covid-19-coronavirus-updates</a>. The court system will however continue to address:

- Criminal matters that affect due process rights of jailed criminal defendants including: first
  appearances, probable cause hearings, preliminary hearings on probation violations, and bond
  motions.
- Juvenile Delinquency matters involving juveniles in secured custody.
- Juvenile DSS-Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency matter for juveniles in *non-secured custody*.
- Civil matters and special proceedings requiring emergency relief including: temporary restraining orders, domestic violence protective orders, civil no contact orders, emergency custody orders, emergency guardianships, and involuntary commitment hearings.

Additional online services, such as locating court dates, making online payments, and obtaining court forms, are available through the North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts website at <a href="https://www.nccourts.gov/services">https://www.nccourts.gov/services</a>.